

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 21, 1880.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HEREFORD, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 1179.]

*The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1179) for the relief of Mattie S. Whitney, report:*

In 1864 the quartermaster of General Slocum's command in the Department of the Mississippi, with the knowledge and approbation of General Slocum, took from the plantation of Mrs. M. S. Whitney, of Mississippi, fifteen horses, three mules, and one wagon. Mrs. Whitney is the widow of Franklin S. Whitney, deceased. General Slocum, in his affidavit, says that he was informed by Mrs. Whitney that a Confederate battery had been sent to attack the boats on which a portion of his command was returning to Vicksburg; that "these horses and mules were taken to enable me [him] to send a force to meet the battery, and with the intention on my [his] part of returning them to the owner." Soon after his return to Vicksburg he was relieved of his command. He says that Mrs. Whitney was loyal and at the time endeavoring to aid the Union troops. Mrs. Whitney swears she lent the property to the United States Government.

The committee find that Mrs. Whitney was loyal to the United States Government; that the property was worth three thousand nine hundred and twenty-five dollars; that the same was lent by her to the government with the understanding and implied promise that it was to be returned or paid for. Your committee therefore recommend the passage of the aforesaid bill herewith reported, with certain amendments.

